

have enabled the establishment of an Interlibrary Network at the Office of State Library in cooperation with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the North Carolina State University and Duke University. All public libraries, academic libraries, technical institutes and some special business and industrial libraries are tied into this Network which provides supplementary informational and book lending service through toll-free telephone and TWX.

The Planning Process

Working with the Office of State Library personnel in Statewide planning have been broad representation from the North Carolina Library Association, the North Carolina Association of Library Trustees, North Carolinians for Better Libraries (a citizens' group) as well as official gubernatorial and legislative commissions (see bibliography for a list of conferences and published reports).

In compiling the present long-range plan, the past conferences and reports, and the experience of the staff have provided background. The ideas and recommendations of the Development Committee, Public Libraries Section, North Carolina Library Association, which met April 27-28, 1972, and of a conference of directors of the present regional libraries in North Carolina which met May 10-11, 1972, have been incorporated. The consultants of the Library Development Division and Special Services Division have contributed greatly to its compilation. It has been read, revised, and approved by members of the North Carolina Advisory Council on Libraries and approved by the Board of Trustees of the Office of State Library and the Secretary of Art, Culture and History. Various drafts have been read by the Regional Library Program Officer and both personal and telephone conferences have provided improvement.

The plan as approved by the State Clearinghouse and submitted to the Regional Office of Education will be advertised in the News Letter and sent to all who request copies. Various parts will be picked up in bulletins sent to news media.

Purpose of the Program

The purpose of this long-range program is to show how the Library Services and Construction Act can assist the State of North Carolina in the extension and improvement of public library services in areas of the State which are without such services or in which such services are inadequate, and with public library construction, and in the improvement of such other Office of State Library service as library services for the physically handicapped, institutionalized and disadvantaged persons, in strengthening the Office of State Library, Department of Art, Culture and History, and in promoting interlibrary cooperation among all types of libraries.